

10/579423  
IAP9 Rec'd PCP/PTO 11 MAY 2006

Express Mail Label No. EV701015059US  
Patent  
Docket No. 514312000400

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:  
Takayuki TOSHIMA et al.

Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned

Filing Date: Concurrently Herewith

For: SUBSTRATE PROCESSING METHOD,  
SUBSTRATE PROCESSING  
APPARATUS AND COMPUTER-  
READABLE MEMORY MEDIUM

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 & 1.98

MS PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98, Applicants submit for consideration in the above-identified application the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08a/b. Copies of the foreign documents are also submitted herewith. The Examiner is requested to make these documents of record.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

- With the application; accordingly, no fee or separate requirements are required.
- Before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under § 1.114. However, if applicable, a certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (e)(1) has been provided.

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Applicants would appreciate the Examiner initialing and returning the Form PTO/SB/08a/b, indicating that the information has been considered and made of record herein.

The information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98 is not to be construed as a representation that: (i) a complete search has been made; (ii) additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist; (iii) the information, protocols, results and the like reported by third parties are accurate or enabling; or (iv) the above information constitutes prior art to the subject invention.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal form is separated from this document and the Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief (such as payment of a fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (p)) is required, Applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Director to charge the cost of such petition and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing **514312000400**.

Dated: May 11, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By   
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ALTERNATIVE TO PTO/SB/08a/b (07-05)

Substitute for form 1449/PTO				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>					
(Use as many sheets as necessary)					
Sheet	1	of	1		
				Attorney Docket Number	514312000400

<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
1.	US-6,616,773	09-09-2003	Kuzumoto et al.		
2.	US-2003/0170949 A1	09-11-2003	Chouno et al.		

<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)			
3.	JP-2002-231696		08-16-2002	Mitsubishi Electric Corp.	
4.	JP-2002-134401		05-10-2002	Seiko Epson Corp	
5.	JP-2001-223206		08-17-2001	Mitsubishi Electric Corp	
6.	JP-2002-18379		01-22-2002	Mitsubishi Denki Kabushiki Kaisha	corres. to USP 6,616,773 above
7.	JP-2003-332322		11-21-2003	Tokyo Electron Ltd	corres. to US Publ. 2003/0170949 above
8.	JP-2003-273085		09-26-2003	Tokyo Electron Limited	
9.	JP-2002-184741		06-28-2002	Tokyo Electron Ltd.	

\*EXAMINER: Initial if information considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

<b>NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS</b>					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.			<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup>

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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